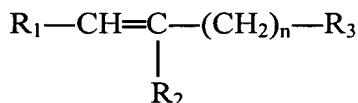


**Amendment to the Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) A pneumatic tire having a rubber component where the rubber in said component is comprised of

(A) from 1 to 25 weight percent of high impact polystyrene comprising greater than 90 percent by weight of units derived from styrene and less than 10 percent by weight of units derived from a monomer of the formula



wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, alkyl groups of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, carboalkoxy or R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> taken together represent an anhydride linkage (—COOOC—) and R<sub>2</sub> is selected from hydrogen, vinyl, alkyl or alkenyl groups having from 1 to 12 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl, carboalkoxy, alkoxy-alkyl, alkyl carboxy, ketoxy, halogen, carboxy, cyano or pyridyl and n is 0 or an integer from 1 to 9;

and

(B) from 75 to 99 weight percent of a rubber containing olefinic unsaturation.

2. (Original) The pneumatic tire of claim 1 wherein said component is comprised of from 2 to 10 weight percent of high impact polystyrene.

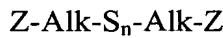
3. (Original) The pneumatic tire of claim 2 wherein said high impact polystyrene is modified with polybutadiene.

4. (Original) The pneumatic tire of claim 2 wherein said high impact polystyrene is modified with styrene-butadiene rubber.

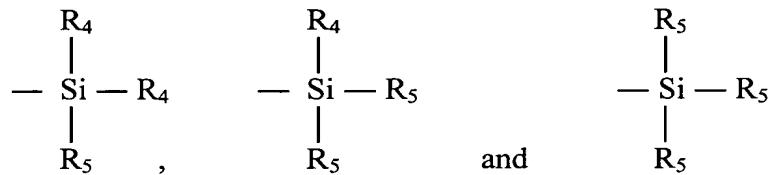
5. (Original) The pneumatic tire of claim 1 wherein said rubber is selected from the group consisting of natural rubber, neoprene, polyisoprene, butyl rubber, halobutyl rubber, polybutadiene, styrene butadiene copolymer, styrene/isoprene/butadiene rubber, methylmethacrylate-butadiene copolymer, isoprene-styrene copolymer, methylmethacrylate-isoprene copolymer, acrylonitrile-isoprene copolymer, acrylonitrile-butadiene copolymer, carboxylated rubber, EPDM, silicon-coupled star-branched polymers, tin-coupled star-branched

polymers and mixtures thereof.

6. (Original) The pneumatic tire of claim 1 wherein from 0.5 to 20 phr of a sulfur containing organosilicon compound is present and is of the formula:



in which Z is selected from the group consisting of



where  $R_4$  is an alkyl group of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, cyclohexyl or phenyl;  $R_5$  is alkoxy of 1 to 8 carbon atoms, or cycloalkoxy of 5 to 8 carbon atoms; Alk is a divalent hydrocarbon of 1 to 18 carbon atoms and n is an integer of 2 to 8.

7. (Original) The pneumatic tire of claim 1 wherein said composition is thermomechanically mixed at a rubber temperature in a range of from 140°C to 190°C for a total mixing time of from 1 to 20 minutes.

8. (Original) The pneumatic tire of claim 1 wherein said tire is selected from the group consisting of passenger tires, motorcycle, aircraft tires, agricultural, earthmover, off-the-road and truck tires.

9. (Original) The pneumatic tire of claim 1 where said tire is a radial.

10. (Original) A pneumatic tire of claim 1 wherein said rubber component is selected from the group consisting of a tread cap, tread base, sidewall, apex, chafer, sidewall insert, wirecoat, beadcoat, innerliner and ply coat.

11. (Original) The pneumatic tire of claim 10 wherein said component is a tread.